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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/714,241	11/13/2003	Michael Darnell Garner		2449

7590 02/22/2006

Michael D. Garner Jr.
119 Crab Apple Road
Huntsville, AL 35811

EXAMINER

NORMAN, MARC E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3744

DATE MAILED: 02/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Interview Summary	Application No. 10/714,241	Applicant(s) GARNER, MICHAEL DARNELL	
	Examiner Marc E. Norman	Art Unit 3744	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Marc E. Norman. (3)_____.

(2) Michael Garner. (4)_____.

Date of Interview: 16 February 2006.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☒ Yes e) ☐ No.

If Yes, brief description: See attached papers faxed by Applicant to the Examiner: a letter sent by PTO to Applicant on August 8, 2005 and a Post Office receipt dated August 1, 2005.

Claim(s) discussed: _____.

Identification of prior art discussed: _____.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☒ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

Examiner's signature, if required

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: The Examiner has held several telephone conversations with Applicant over the past few days. Applicant inquired as to why the case was abandoned and whether anything could be done to revive the application. The Examiner explained that the PTO paper of 7/8/05 set forth a one month deadline for submission of claims in proper format as well as payment of a required late fee, and that the official response to that paper was not received until 8/28/05 - more than two weeks after the due date. Applicant explained that a response was sent in on time, but that since it did not have the case serial number, the PTO did not know what to do with the paper and returned it to the Applicant. At the Examiner's request, Applicant faxed in a letter sent by the PTO at that time as well as a Post Office receipt showing that papers were sent by Applicant to the PTO on 8/1/05 (see attached papers). However, there is nothing in the papers provided by Applicant that ties what was sent to the present case. The Examiner brought these papers to his Supervisor, Cheryl Tyler, and to Special Programs Examiner Jessica Harrison, who both examined the facts in the case. The conclusion was that the Applicant failed to provide sufficient documentary proof that a proper response was filed in the time required. Accordingly, the Examiner is barred from acting on the case and the abandonment entered on 1/31/06 was proper. The Examiner explained to Applicant that the proper course of action is to file a petition for unintentional abandonment, and referred Applicant the PTO web site for guideline on filing such a petition and also furnished Applicant with the phone number for the Office of Petitions. The Examiner further notes that on several occasions, Applicant's mother telephoned the Examiner on her son's behalf. For the record, it is noted that since she is neither the inventor nor a listed power of attorney, the Examiner is barred from speaking with her. If she wishes to act on her son's behalf, she can file for power of attorney.



MARC NORMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

P.O. BOX 908
NORMAL, AL 35762
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FAX: (256) 372-5253

**ALABAMA A&M
UNIVERSITY**

Fax

To: Mr. Norman From: Michael Garner
Fax: 571 273 4812 Pages: 2
Phone: _____ Date: 2-10-06
Re: _____ CC: _____

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● Comments:



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August 8, 2005

Michael D. Garner Jr.
119 Crab Apple Tree Rd.
Huntsville, AL 35811

Dear Sir;

I am returning your application because we are not sure what exactly you want.

There are forms that must be used and you can get them from our Website or call our toll free number at, 1-800-786-9199 and ask to have them sent to you.

Claims must be on a separate page and the fee for a Provisional is \$100.00.

Good Luck with your Idea.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eleanor Kurtz", written over the printed name.

Eleanor Kurtz
Office of Initial Patent Examination

P.O. BOX 908
NORMAL, AL 35762
PHONE: (256) 372-5254
FAX: (256) 372-5253

**ALABAMA A&M
UNIVERSITY**

Fax

To: Mr. Norman From: Michael Garner
Fax: 571-273-4812 Pages: 2
Phone: _____ Date: 2-15-06
Re: _____ CC: _____

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• Comments:

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